



*JDW*  
*George*

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of Volker ROTHERMUND, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/587,761

Confirmation No.: 1238

Filed: July 28, 2006

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR FASTENING A RIVET NUT ON A WORKPIECE

Attorney Docket No.: 3926.280

Customer No.: 30448

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited either by facsimile to 571-273-8300 or with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 31, 2006.

*Yonghong Chen*  
Yonghong Chen Reg. No. 56,150

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the following documents for the above-identified application. Copies of the non-US documents set forth below and listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A, copy of an International Search Report (ISR) and a German Examination Report dated September 28, 2004 issued in the corresponding applications are provided herewith.

1. DE 101 17 060 A1
2. DE 22 62 041 A1

{WP330626;1}

3. US 3,921,276
4. EP 0 539 793 A1 (in English)
5. DE 39 37 903 C2

Documents 1-4 are cited in the ISR. Documents 2 and 5 are cited in the German Examination Report. Document 1 is also mentioned in the background of the specification of the instant application. A concise explanation of relevancy for each non-English document is provided below:

**Document 1**

It is indicated in the ISR that paragraphs [0025] – [0038] and [0050] – [0052] and the Figs. 1a-1f and 5a-5f of Document 1 are "A" category relevant to claims 1 and 8 of the corresponding PCT application of the instant application.

**Document 2**

It is indicated in the ISR that page 7, last line – page 8, line 15, claim 1 and the figures of Document 2 are "A" category relevant to claims 1 and 8 of the corresponding PCT application of the instant application.

**Document 5**

It is stated in the German Examination Report that Documents 5 (especially column 2, lines 3ff, and column 7) discloses a method for fastening a rivet nut on a workpiece, whereby a hole is punched in the workpiece in which the rivet nut is applied with its section to be riveted. The rivet nut is riveted on the workpiece by a rivet tool, whereby the workpiece is fed to a tool after the hole punch, in which the rivet nut with its section to be riveted is inserted in the hole and the rivet nut in the hole is then riveted with a rivet tool.

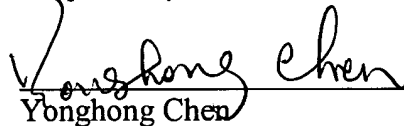
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, therefore no Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

**Date: August 31, 2006**

Respectfully submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

***(Use as many sheets as necessary)***

Sheet	1	of	1
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PTO/SB/08A (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/587,761
Filing Date	July 28, 2006
First Named Inventor	Volker ROTHERMUND
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	3926.280

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>2</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		DE 101 17 060 A1	10-10-2002	Profil Verbindungstechnik GmbH & Co. KG		
		DE 22 62 041 A1	06-27-1974	Multifastener Corp.		
		EP 0 539 793 A1	05-05-1993	PROFIL-Verbindungstechnik GmbH & Co. KG		
		DE 39 37 903 C2	09-11-1995	Maschinenbau Dieter Schmidt		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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